are as given below:

| Year | Number (including Nationals of Pakistan & Bangladesh) |
|---|---|
| 1983 . . . . . | 1,304,976 |
| 1984 . . . . . | 1,193,752 |
| 1985 . . . . . | 1,259,384 |
| 1986 . . . . . | 1,451,076 |
| 1987 . . . . . | 1,484,290 |

(c) The number of people engaged directly in different aspects of tourism industry is estimated to be over four million during 1984-85. State-wise break up of this estimate is not available.

**Appointment of Welcome Travels as G. S. A. at London by Air India**

721. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA:
SHRI PARVATHAENI UPENDRA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have appointed Welcome Travels of the General Sales Agency to act as the Air-India's agents in London;

(b) whether the selection of this Agency was made through poublic tenders; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore and whether a team of officers of the Enforcement Directorate of Government of India and Director of Vigilance of Air India visited London in July 1988 to enquire into this selection of the Agency as reported in Hindustan Times dated the 6th October, 1988?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AIVATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL: (a) and (b) M/s. Gimvale Limited, trading as Welcome Travels, was appointed as General Sales Agent of Air India at London with effect from 1st November, 1988, after following the established procedure. Air India does not appoint General Sales Agents through public tenders.

(c) Director, Vigilance of Air India did not visit London in July, 1988. However, he had visited London in June, 1988 to review the security arrangements at Heathroow Airport and other matters related to his charge. Enforcement Directorate of the Ministry of Finance have also confirmed that no team of officers visited London in July, 1988 to enquire into the appointment of the General Sales Agent of Air India.

**Visa of Ajitabh Bachchan**

722. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Swiss authorties had denied a resident visa to Shri Ajitabh Bachchan in August, 1987, as reported in India Today of 30 September, 1988; if so, on what grounds;

(b) whether it is also a fact that one cannot take up job in Switzerland without a resident visa; and

(c) whether Acropharma (Switzerland) had offered employment to him in February, 1986 and that he had accepted the same on the 28th February, 1986; if so, whether he actually took up the job there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K. K TEWARI): (a) The Government have no information about the denial of a Swiss resident visa to Shri Ajitabh Bachchan during August, 1987.

(b) This concerns a foreign Government.

(c) Yes, Sir. M/s. Arcopharma, S.A. Switzerland had offered an employment as a Consultant to Shri Ajitabh Bachchan and he accepted the offer and started rendering consultancy services w.e.f. 28.2.86.